

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A filter apparatus comprising: a channel capable of guiding a portion of an internal fluid stream within an enclosure through a recirculating filter and a filter chamber disposed in the internal fluid stream portion immediately downstream of the recirculating filter, the filter chamber capable of filtering an external fluid stream through a diffusion path

~~a base;~~

~~a breather diffusion path formed in the base;~~

~~a re-circulating filter channel adjacent the base; and~~

~~an absorption filter chamber adjacent the re-circulating filter channel and~~

~~communicating with the breather diffusion path.~~

2. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a ~~shroud~~ filter wall adjacent the absorption filter chamber disposed outside the channel capable of filtering the internal fluid stream portion not entering the channel.

3. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising a first re-circulating filter channel wall having a first re-circulating filter retention groove, the first re-circulating filter channel wall lies adjacent the re-circulating filter channel and~~

~~communicates with the base~~ 2 wherein the filter disposed outside the channel is supported by the filter chamber.

4. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 3, ~~further comprising a second re-circulating filter channel wall having a second re-circulating filter retention groove, the second re-circulating filter channel wall lies adjacent the re-circulating filter channel and communicates with the base~~ wherein the filter disposed outside the channel defines a shroud in close mating relationship with a moving member that creates the internal fluid stream.

5. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 4, ~~further comprising a re-circulating filter spanning the re-circulating filter channel and secured between the first re-circulating filter retention groove and a second re-circulating filter retention groove~~ 1 wherein the channel supports a carpet filter.

6. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 5, ~~in which the breather diffusion path is formed on an outer surface of the base, and in which the absorption chamber is adjacent an inner surface of the base, and further in which the breather diffusion path communicates with the absorption chamber via a diffusion aperture of the base~~ 1 wherein the channel is sized to fluidly communicate with a first area of an upstream side of the recirculating filter, and the filter apparatus is sized to fluidly communicate with a second area of a downstream side of the recirculating filter, wherein the second area is

substantially greater than the first area to impart a relatively reduced pressure region in the fluid stream portion downstream of the recirculating filter.

7. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 2, ~~in which a shroud filter wall supports an impact filter medium on an exterior portion of the shroud filter wall, and in which an interior portion of the shroud filter wall provides a first absorption filter~~ confinement wall 6 wherein the diffusion path comprises a breather aperture on an external side of the enclosure and a diffusion aperture on an internal side of the enclosure, wherein the diffusion aperture is disposed in the relatively reduced pressure region.

8. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 7, ~~further comprising a second absorption filter confinement wall supported by the base~~ comprising a filter capable of intercepting fluid flowing through the diffusion path.

9. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 8, ~~further comprising a cover supported by the first absorption filter confinement wall and the second absorption filter~~ confinement wall 7 wherein the filter chamber defines a permeable enclosure around the diffusion aperture.

10. (Currently amended) The filter apparatus of claim 9, ~~in which the base and the first and second absorption filter confinement walls in combination with the cover establish the absorption chamber~~ wherein the enclosure supports a filter capable of intercepting the fluid flowing through the diffusion path.

11. (Currently amended) ~~The filter apparatus of claim 10, in which the absorption chamber confines an absorption filter, wherein the absorption filter absorbs corrosive gases and organic vapors~~ 9 wherein the enclosure contains a filter capable of intercepting the fluid flowing through the diffusion path.

12. (Currently amended) ~~The filter apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a base deck having a breather aperture, and in which the base deck supports the base 7 wherein the filter chamber adsorbs contaminants flowing into the enclosure via the diffusion path.~~

13. (Currently amended) A data storage device with a moving data storage medium creating the internal fluid stream that is conditioned by the ~~The filter apparatus of claim 12, in which the breather aperture is adjacent a proximal end of the diffusion path and the diffusion aperture is adjacent a distal end of the diffusion path.~~

14.-19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) A data storage device comprising:

a base deck;

a disc stack assembly secured to the base deck;

an actuator assembly adjacent the disc stack assembly and affixed to the base deck;

a top cover attached to the base deck enclosing the disc stack assembly and the

actuator assembly within a confined environment; and

means for filtering contaminants from the confined environment.

21. (Currently amended) The data storage device of claim 19, ~~in which the means for filtering contaminants from the confined environment comprises:~~

~~a base;~~

~~a breather diffusion path formed in the base;~~

~~a re-circulating filter channel adjacent the base; and~~

~~an absorption filter chamber adjacent the re-circulating filter channel, the absorption filter chamber communicating with the breather diffusion path~~ 20 wherein the means for filtering is characterized by a discrete component that is attachable within the confined environment.

22. (New) A method comprising:

rotating a data storage medium inside an enclosure to create an internal fluid stream;

diverting a portion of the internal fluid stream through a recirculating filter; and

fluidly mixing the internal fluid stream portion and an external fluid stream with a

filter chamber disposed within the internal fluid stream immediately

downstream of the recirculating filter.

23. (New) The method of claim 22 wherein the diverting step is characterized by providing a channel comprising a proximal end in fluid communication with the internal fluid stream and a distal end in fluid communication with a first area of an upstream side of the recirculating filter.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein the mixing step is characterized by enclosing the recirculating filter with a second area on a downstream side of the recirculating filter in order to induce a pressure drop in the internal fluid stream across the recirculating filter.

25. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the mixing step is characterized by filtering the external fluid stream.

26. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein the diverting and mixing steps are characterized by adsorbing contaminants from the fluid streams.

27. (New) The method of claim 22 comprising filtering a non-diverted portion of the internal fluid stream.